

Bicycling

It's healthy, it's green, it's great!



Bicyclists and pedestrians use the new San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge bike path.

Bicycle commuters help improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion and parking demand, save energy, and promote healthy living through enjoyable exercise. In concert with the members of the [Strategic Growth Council](#), Caltrans began this year exploring new ways to measure effectiveness and efficiency of California's transportation system, including transit, biking, and walking. Caltrans promotes bicycle safety and convenience to the public by funding bicycle projects and providing technical expertise to our federal, state, and local transportation partners, bicycling advocates, and legislative staff.

Improving bicycle safety is one of the focus areas in California's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, a comprehensive, data-driven effort to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on public roads statewide. Caltrans has worked with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to put bicycle safety language in the DMV drivers' handbook, improved bicycle trip and collision data collection, and integrated bicycle facility design in the 2012 edition of the Highway Design Manual.

Caltrans is also looking at all modes of travel to help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the state. This includes bicycle-friendly policies and an increase in bicycle and pedestrian project funding.

Bicycle projects are primarily funded through the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), and over the last five years, Caltrans awarded \$40.7 million in BTA funding to 127 bike projects. Bicycle projects may also be part of a larger project, and additional

Projects Funded Through Bicycle Transportation Account

Fiscal Year	Projects Awarded	Awarded (in millions)
2012–13	39	\$11.9
2011–12	24	\$7.2
2010–11	23	\$7.2
2009–10	23	\$7.2
2008–09	18	\$7.2
Total	127	\$40.7

Data Source: Division of Local Assistance

funding comes from a variety of local, state, and federal sources. On September 26, 2013, Governor Brown signed legislation (SB 99, Chap. 359) that creates the Active Transportation Program (ATP). The ATP will consolidate existing federal and state transportation programs into a single program focused on making California a national leader in active transportation. It will also provide more than \$130 million a year in state and federal funds to bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects.

The ATP will enhance public health and safety by encouraging an increase in bicycling and walking and advance the efforts of regional transportation agencies to achieve GHG reduction goals. The ATP will ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, and will provide a broad spectrum of projects that will benefit many types of active transportation users.